

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

DE DOMINICIS et al

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Serial No.: New Application

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: February 5, 2002

Attorney Dkt. No.: 108910-00051

For: TREATMENT OF METAL SUBSTRATA WITH (PER)FLUOROPOLYETHER
COMPOUNDS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 5, 2002

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fees and initial examination of the application,
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3-6, 8 and 10 as follows. A copy of the marked up original
claims is attached to this response showing the changes as set forth in amended 37
CFR 1.121.

3. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to claim 1,
wherein in the compounds of structure (A) and (C) the end group of R_f is of the T-O-
type, wherein T is a (per) fluoroalkyl group selected from: $-CF_3$, $-C_2F_5$, $-C_3F_7$, $-CF_2Cl$, $-$
 C_2F_4Cl , $-C_3F_6Cl$; optionally one or two F atoms, preferably one, can be substituted by H.

4. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to claim 1, wherein a mixture of compounds (C) and (D) is used.

5. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to claim 1, wherein the treatment is made by dipping, spin-coating, spraying, padding or brushing.

6. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to claim 1, wherein the perfluoropolyether compounds of structure (C) and (D) are applied using formulations with solvent, solvent-water mixtures or prevailing aqueous formulations.

8. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to claim 1, wherein the perfluoropolyether compounds of structure (A) and (B) are applied using aqueous formulations or formulations having a polar solvent.

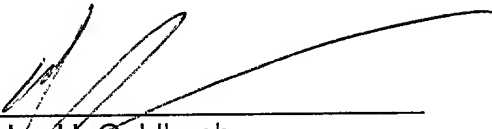
10. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata and their alloys to confer anti-corrosive properties of the mono- and bi-functional (per)fluoropolyether compounds of claim 1.

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3-6, 8 and 10 are amended to correct the multiple dependencies thereof and to place this application into better condition for examination. No new matter has been added.

In the event that there are any fees due with respect to the filing of this paper,
please charge Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims

MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED CLAIMS
ATTY. DOCKET NO. 108910-00051

3. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to [claims 1-2] claim 1, wherein in the compounds of structure (A) and (C) the end group of R_f is of the T-O- type, wherein T is a (per) fluoroalkyl group selected from: $-CF_3$, $-C_2F_5$, $-C_3F_7$, $-CF_2Cl$, $-C_2F_4Cl$, $-C_3F_6Cl$; optionally one or two F atoms, preferably one, can be substituted by H.

4. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to [claims 1-3] claim 1, wherein a mixture of compounds (C) and (D) is used.

5. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to [claims 1-4] claim 1, wherein the treatment is made by dipping, spin-coating, spraying, padding or brushing.

6. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to [claims 1-5] claim 1, wherein the perfluoropolyether compounds of structure (C) and (D) are applied using formulations with solvent, solvent-water mixtures or prevailing aqueous formulations.

8. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata according to [claims 1-5] claim 1, wherein the perfluoropolyether compounds of structure (A) and (B) are applied using aqueous formulations or formulations having a polar solvent.

10. (Amended) Use in the treatment of metal substrata and their alloys to confer anti-corrosive properties of the mono- and bi-functional (per)fluoropolyether compounds of [claims 1-9] claim 1.